



THE ARC OF THE UNITED STATES,
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON INTELLECTUAL
AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES,
ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY CENTERS ON DISABILITIES,
UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY AND
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Present:

THE 2007 DISABILITY POLICY SEMINAR

NEW CONGRESS, NEW OPPORTUNITIES

March 4 – 6

The Hyatt Regency Washington
on Capitol Hill

400 New Jersey Avenue NW
Washington, DC

New Congress, New Opportunities, the theme for the 2007 Disability Policy Seminar, is a practical vision of the many new public policy opportunities for the millions of people with disabilities and their families nationwide once the 110th Congress commences. Everything from health care and family supports to civil rights and education could be on the table, and the disability community needs to be ready to press for a progressive disability policy agenda.

Democrats control the new Congress with only a slim majority, which will require working both sides of the aisle to achieve legislative successes. Bipartisanship, historically for the disability community, is a key ingredient to our successes on Capitol Hill.

At the 2007 Seminar, hundreds of disability advocates from around the country will gather to discuss the myriad of public policy issues affecting people with disabilities and their families. We expect the following public policy issues will take center stage:

- Developmental Disabilities Act
- Family Support
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- Long-term Services and Supports
- Education
- Employment
- Health
- Housing
- Budget and Appropriations
- Social Security

Once again, the Disability Policy Seminar will provide you with all the tools and information to advocate with the U.S. Congress so we can work toward these goals together. Participants will get to:

- Hear from leading public policy experts, disability advocates, and association leaders about key policies/programs important to our constituencies;
- Put the Seminar sessions into practice by visiting Capitol Hill to meet with your congressional delegation; and
- Deliver a unified message to Congress and the Administration that disability benefits and services are our top priorities and that policies and programs must permit people with disabilities to live, thrive, and contribute in their own communities everywhere.

Together, The Arc of the United States, American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD), Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD), United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) and National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) will look to our extensive grassroots networks to advocate in a bipartisan manner for national public policies promoting the full inclusion of people with disabilities in our society.

Send as many representatives to the Seminar from your organization as possible, including:

- Volunteers, Board Members and Parents
- Staff and Trainees
- Constituents
- State and Local Public Policy Committee Members
- Policy Staff
- Self-advocates

Your paid registration entitles you to:

- All Seminar sessions
- Monday's Luncheon
- A comprehensive package of issue fact sheets and other materials.

How to prepare for the Disability Policy Seminar:

1. Share this information with your Board, staff, disability community leaders, and colleagues. Work together to determine who will attend the Seminar in 2007.

2. Return the enclosed Seminar registration form, postmarked by February 8, 2007 to AAIDD, 444 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 846, Washington, D.C. 20001.

Please include a registration form for each participant with payment. Or register on-line at: <https://www.aucd.org/meetings/gaseminar.cfm>. Registration fees increase by \$50 after **February 8**.

3. Reservations at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill MUST be made directly with the hotel by February 8, 2007.

The hotel rate is \$239.00 per night. To receive this rate, participants must make reservations under the "Governmental Affairs Disability Policy Seminar" by calling the hotel toll-free phone number at **(800) 233-1234**. This special rate is not available on the hotel's Web site. The hotel requires a major credit card for the first night's deposit to guarantee a room reservation, and the address is 400 New Jersey Avenue NW, Washington, DC.

4. Make your own appointments with your Washington congressional delegation for Tuesday, March 6.

Prioritize your visits to those Senators and Representatives who serve on key legislative committees. Once the leaders of the 110th Congress complete the committee assignment process, a list of the key committees will be available at the Web sites and Action

Centers of The Arc, AUCD, UCP and NACDD as well as upon your request. Be prepared to make your Hill appointments as soon as possible.

5. Starting in February, check The Arc, AAIDD, AUCD, UCP and NACDD Web sites for an updated registrant list from your state to prepare yourself for Hill visits.

Don't forget these dates!

- **February 8, 2007** - Disability Policy Seminar registration deadline without incurring a \$50 late fee and hotel registration deadline.
- **February 18, 2007** - This is the last date for submitting a cancellation. All cancellations will be subject to a 25% penalty and refund requests must be sent in writing. Requests received after close of business on this date cannot be honored.
- **March 6, 2007** - Date for visits to your Congressional offices.

For additional information and updates, contact:

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